

Interpretive Programs... And other Park Events!

Indiana Dunes State Park

1600 N. 25 E.

Chesterton, Indiana 46304

NC # (219) 926-1390

Park Manager: Brandt Baughman

Asst. Park Manager: Doug Stuke



Golden-winged Warbler

Nature Center Staff:

Brad Bumgardner

David Garner

May Nature Center Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT

Daily

www.interpretiveservices.in.gov

All programs are free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public after paying the park entrance fee. Our interpretive programs are designed to entertain and enrich folks of all ages. Children under 12, please bring a parent with you.

Saturday May 2

Welcome Back Weekend!

***Special Healthy Parks, Healthy People Activities
All Weekend!***

8am Spring Passerines in the Dunes. Join the Naturalist and members of the Northwest Indiana Migratory Bird Association for a morning of birding. We will meet by the main gate for an hour of longshore flight viewing from the old "Green Tower" site. After that, we'll carpool to the Wilson Shelter for a 2 hour jaunt on the famed Trail 2/10 birding trail. We will be done by 11am. Join us! BB

10am INShape Indiana Walk! It's our annual hiking tradition. We'll meet at the Beach Pavilion for a moderate hike to Mt. Tom and back along the beach. Print free passes into the park today at www.in.gov/inshape. DG

2pm Going Green! Join us in the Nature Center for a look at what you can do to turn your life green. We'll look at what you can do in your own home to help save money and help the environment. Join us! DG

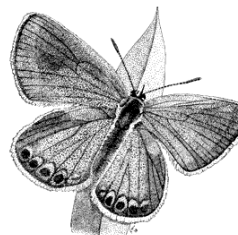
8pm Whooo Goes There...! You do on this creature of the night hike. We'll begin at the Nature Center for a short program looking at the owls and whippoorwills of Indiana Dunes, then step outside to try to hoot some up. Children under 12, please bring a parent with you. BB

Sunday May 3

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Learn what you can put in your feeders to keep your birds healthy and happy! Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. DG

11am The Natural Heritage of Indiana! Join us for a special presentation of this amazing documentary that explores "a celebration of Indiana's natural heritage." It was produced in 2008 by WFYI in Indianapolis. Today we'll feature the changing landscape of Indiana. Join us!

2pm Critter Feeding Time. Flock to the Nature Center Auditorium for a fun time as we feed the Nature Center frogs, turtles, and snakes. Come watch them eat or maybe even help out! Great family program! DG



Saturday May 9

*Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day
Today By Joining A Local Bird Count!*

10am Sands of Time. Join volunteer Dale for a fascinating look at how the dunes were formed. We'll explore the sands of the dunes, as well as other sands from around the world! Meet in the auditorium for this 30 minute, interactive program.

2pm Afternoon Birds! Join the Naturalist as we contribute data to the Porter County Big May Day Bird Count. We'll start at the Nature Center and take an easy stroll to Mt. Tom and back. Bring binoculars, or borrow a pair of ours as we enjoy the spring birding bonanza. BB

Sunday May 10

10am Birds and Blooms with Mom. Bring Mom for a morning stroll, exploring the birds and flowers of Trail 2. We'll meet at the Wilson Shelter and be back within an hour. Grab Mom and come on out! BB

2pm Winged Migration! Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for this amazing 90 minute movie that won the academy award for best documentary. Fly right alongside ducks, cranes, and eagles. Seating first come first serve.

Saturday May 16

Explore the Dunes Bioblitz all weekend! Visit www.nationalgeographic.com/field/projects/bioblitz.html for more information.

10am Dune Geology. Join volunteer Dale for a fascinating look at how the dunes were formed. Meet in the auditorium for this 30 minute, interactive program.

2pm Blooming Biodiversity. Meet the Naturalist at the Nature Center for an hour stroll through the dune forest in search of mid-May wildflowers. We hope to find May apples, geraniums, violets, and more! Join us! DG

Sunday May 17

9am Coffee and Birds. Meet the Naturalist at the Campground Gate for a morning of migrating warblers, vireos, and flycatchers. We'll travel Trail 2, and be out for an hour or a little more. Coffee available for a small cost at the camp store. Bring binoculars, or borrow a pair of ours. BB

2pm Critter Feeding Time! Flock to the Nature Center Auditorium for a fun time as we feed the Nature Center frogs, turtles, and snakes. Come watch them eat or maybe even help out! Great family program!

Friday May 22

6:30pm Campground Crafts! Send the kids over while setting up camp for an hour of nature craft fun! Join the naturalist at the Campground Shelter as we make some cool crafts you can take back to the campsite. It's sure to be a fun time! DG

Saturday May 23

10am Mt. Tom Bound! Strap on your hiking shoes as we head for Mt. Tom, the highest point in the park. We'll enjoy a less rugged route and stop to enjoy the sights and sounds along the way. We'll be back for opening hour of the 2009 beach season! Meet at the Campground Shelter (by site 116). BB

1pm Hoosier Quest Patch Program. Visit the Nature Center to find out how you (and your family) can earn special patches and pins (and other prizes) in the state parks! BB

3pm Wetland Stroll. Join us at the Nature Center for an easy hour stroll into the dunes marshes. We'll explore the plants and animals that live in this special place along the way. Join us!

8pm Animals of the Night! Meet the Naturalist at the Nature Center for an evening hike looking, and listening, for the creatures that call the dunes home! We'll explore owls, bats, whippoorwills and more! Children under 12, please bring a parent. Flashlights suggested for the walk back to the campsite afterwards. BB

Sunday May 24

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Learn what you can put in your feeders to keep your birds healthy and happy! Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BB

1pm Hoosier Quest Patch Program. Visit the Nature Center to find out how you (and your family) can earn special patches and pins (and other prizes) in the state parks! BB

3pm Late May Flora. Join us for an afternoon stroll, exploring the flowers of Trail 2. We'll meet at the Campground Gate and be back within an hour. BB

8pm Dune Jeopardy! Test your dune knowledge and win some prizes tonight! Meet at the Campground Shelter (by site 116) and join in some dune jeopardy fun. Bring the whole family and see how much you know! BB

Monday May 25

Memorial Day!

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. DG

3pm Naturalist Beach Break! Watch for the Naturalist near the Beach Pavilion. What special critters will they have today! Take a break from the beach and check it out! DG

Tuesday May 26

3pm Lion Hunt! Join us for a safari of sorts! We'll meet at the Nature Center and search out the ferocious ant lions that live in the dunes. Total time about 45-minutes. DG

7pm Image Makers Nature Photo Club. Image Makers is an informal nature photo club that meets once a month at the Nature Center. Bring your favorite photo to share or just enjoy photos from other nature photo enthusiasts. Join us!

Wednesday May 27

10am Sands of the World. Join volunteer Dale for a fascinating look at how the dunes were formed. We'll explore the sands of the dunes, as well as other sands from around the world! Meet in the auditorium for this 30 minute, interactive program.

Thursday May 28

9:30am Breeding Birds. Meet at the Campground Gate for a sneak peak at the breeding birds of Indiana Dunes. By this date, most of the migrating birds will have moved north, and those staying will have just begun nest building. Bring binoculars, or borrow a pair of ours! BB

Friday May 29

6:30pm Campground Crafts! Send the kids over while setting up camp for an hour of nature craft fun! Join the naturalist at the Campground Shelter as we make some cool crafts you can take back to the campsite. It's sure to be a fun time!

Saturday May 30

10am Mt. Jackson Bound! Strap on your hiking shoes as we head for Mt. Jackson, the third highest point in the park. We'll enjoy the sights and sounds along the way. Meet at the Nature Center. DG

1pm Hoosier Quest Patch Program. Visit the Nature Center to find out how you (and your family) can earn special patches and pins (and other prizes) in the state parks! DG

3pm Geocaching Jaunt. Explore a scavenger hunt with a techno-twist as we go geocaching this afternoon. Meet outside the Nature Center for a short discussion on GPS and geocaching, and then try your hand at finding your own geocache. Prizes for the kids afterwards. Great family fun! BB

Sunday May 31

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids.

1pm Hoosier Quest Patch Program. Visit the Nature Center to find out how you (and your family) can earn special patches and pins (and other prizes) in the state parks!

3pm Naturalist Beach Break! Watch for the Naturalist near the Beach Pavilion. What special critters will they have today! Take a break from the beach and check it out!

